

APPENDIX H

Mayor Armstrong, Councillors and residents across Waterloo Region

My family and I could choose to move from Shingletown but then the possibility of the Hallman Gravel pit becomes someone else's problem, someone else's health risk. I know that a house does not make a home and we could create a home somewhere else. But the house we live in in Shingletown is a treasure given to us by my parents. They also live in Shingletown so we are three generation residents. My parents for thirty years, my husband and I for twenty years and my children have lived here their whole lives. You see my father is a master carpenter and spent the better part of seven years building our two houses and customizing each part. When my father sees a piece of wood, he sees his next project. He comes from a generation who show their love through how they provide for you. If we were to move, we could not take this door with us, (page one) we could not take these floors with us (page two) and we could not move this ceiling (page three). We can't move the tree house that my children grew up on and the neighbours now enjoy (page four). We hope that this house will long be in our family. If you ask other residents of Shingletown about why they choose to live here they will have their own reasons. Starting out as a new family or retiring here after a lifetime of work. This space brings us solitude, especially during these past two years.

After talking about my father's legacy, I'd like to talk about council's legacy. You see we all have a **common** threat that we need to address and it's the climate crisis. We don't have the **luxury** of leaving this hard work to the next council or the next election. We need to decide now how to lower our greenhouse emissions and protect our natural resources. **Climate Action Waterloo Region** has their 80 by 50 mandate which means reducing greenhouse emissions 80% by 2050. Wilmot Council's **Sustainability Working Group** participates in this initiative. There is good news here! Wilmot council has already reduced the township's greenhouse emissions by 30% which is highly commendable. We need to consider the remaining 50% reduction. The sooner we accomplish this goal the better for lowering the temperature of the planet, the more we can inspire change in other communities and stall this climate crisis.

Here are ideas discussed by **Climate Action Waterloo Region** listed in their Transform Waterloo Region Strategy. Strategy 5.1 on page 59 states Protect agricultural land and the local agricultural system. Waterloo Region has been a long-time leader in the development and implementation of land use planning protections for **prime agricultural land**. This protection is a continued priority for community members, those in the agricultural industry, and municipalities, and these policies must continue to be strong. Strategy 5.2 Diversify and strengthen the local agri-food sector with a focus on serving local food needs. Supporting and continuing to build our agricultural and agri-food industry can increase the amount of food that we grow, make, and consume locally. This significantly reduces the energy needed to transport food into and out of the region. Just like keeping aggregate resources close to the intended market reduces greenhouse gas emissions, so to does keeping food close at hand. Supporting our local agricultural community directly contributes to strengthening our local economy, and increases our resilience by reducing our reliance on international supply chains.

I would like to thank Wilmot Council for their time and consideration of this zone change application and the effects on Wilmot Township. In the Wilmot.ca photo galleries, I see farmland in all it's seasons,

sunsets and skies. There is water and even a quaint photo of a true country road called Witmer Road. These represent Wilmot for my family too.

Remember we are in a Climate Emergency even more so than when Wilmot Council declared that in September 2019.

Remember this property is zoned Prime Agricultural Land and

you can deny the application, as stated by David Sisco who represents Jackson Harvest Farm, back in January 2020.

Remember Wetlands are wetlands no matter where in Wilmot Township and

this is your legacy and mine.

I would like to close with a quote from Izabella Teixeira, former environment minister of Brazil who spoke about the climate emergency with the United Nations: "Currently decisions are being based on the past but we need to base them on the future. That means leadership."

I look forward to your decision and your leadership.

Thank you